



A quick guide to Personal Independence Payment (PIP) for local authorities (updated 10 June 2013)

Disability Living Allowance (DLA) has been replaced by Personal Independence Payment (PIP) for people aged 16 to 64 from 8 April 2013 and those turning 16 after that date. This is initially for new claims only.

The introduction of PIP is part of a wider reform of the welfare system. The new benefit better reflects today's understanding of disability, which has changed significantly in the two decades since DLA was introduced.

PIP includes an assessment of individual needs and aims to make sure financial support is targeted at those who face the greatest challenges to living independently.

This guide is for local authority (LA) staff who provide support to people who can or do claim PIP or DLA. A range of tailored information is available online at www.dwp.gov.uk/pip-toolkit

What is PIP?

PIP helps towards some of the extra costs arising from a long term health condition or disability. It's based on how a person's condition affects them, not the condition they have.

DLA remains for children up to the age of 16. From October 2013, the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) will contact DLA claimants as they approach 16 to explain what will happen.

DLA remains available to those who were aged 65 or over on 8 April 2013 (the day that PIP is introduced).

In the same way as DLA, claimants can receive PIP whether they are in or out of work. The benefit is not means tested or taxed.

Enhanced (12 pts+)	Enhanced (12 pts+)
Standard (8-11 points scored)	Standard (8-11 points scored)

There are two components to PIP – for daily living and mobility needs. Each component can be paid at standard rate, or enhanced rate for those with the greatest needs.

Daily Living Mobility

PIP includes an assessment of an individual's needs by a health professional. Most people have a face-to-face consultation as part of their claim. You can find out more about the claim process on the quick guide for support organisations – available at www.dwp.gov.uk/pip-toolkit.

We'll review awards to make sure the claimant is receiving the right support. Reviews will be at appropriate intervals depending on how likely it is for the claimant's condition or impairment to change.

Guidance, support & more information

We issue [Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit Circulars](#) that provide guidance on how PIP affects LA processes.

More information about **ATLAS** changes is available through the [Huddle LA Data Share workspace](#) (please [contact LA-ST](#) to register and get access). Download the ATLAS Awareness Pack.

When is PIP being introduced?

10 June 2013

New claims to PIP started for the remaining parts of Great Britain. There will be no new claims to DLA for people aged 16 to 64.

From 10 June 2013, the Local Authority Data Sharing (LADS) Programme has implemented an Automated Transfer to Local Authority Systems (**ATLAS**) notification for PIP data. As with the DLA ATLAS notification, this PIP one posts directly to local authority benefit systems.

7 October 2013

Reassessment to PIP starts for fixed period DLA awards coming up for renewal and young people turning 16 or where DLA claimants report a change in their condition.

There are no automatic entitlements to PIP, even where an indefinite or lifetime DLA award has been made.

If an existing DLA recipient makes a claim to PIP then their DLA would normally continue until a decision on their PIP claim is made. If PIP is not awarded or not claimed then DLA will stop.

October 2015

We'll begin selecting the remaining DLA claimants and tell them what they need to do to claim PIP. We will prioritise DLA claimants who have turned 65 after 8 April 2013, when PIP was first introduced.

Existing DLA recipients who were aged between 16 and 64 years old on 8 April 2013 (the day that PIP is introduced), or turn 16 after that date, will need to decide if they want to make a claim to PIP.

The updated PIP toolkit (www.dwp.gov.uk/pip-toolkit) contains materials you can adapt to your own guidance or [communications](#).

Your local DWP Partner Manager may also be able to help: www.dwp.gov.uk/adviser/national-partnership-team.

Direct claimants to www.gov.uk/pip. You may want to link to this page from your own sites.

Email pip.feedback@dwp.gsi.gov.uk, using 'Toolkit' as the subject line with any questions or comments.

How are other benefits and services affected?

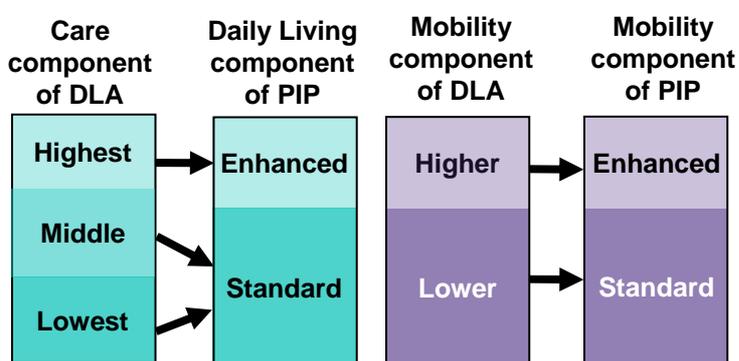
Getting DLA is a commonly accepted and broad definition of disability. Like DLA, PIP will be the main way of getting ('passporting' to) other disability benefits and services. There are no changes to the passporting arrangements for people who remain in receipt of DLA.

Claimants receive a PIP award letter as proof of their entitlement, which can lead to entitlement to some other benefits and schemes.

We use ATLAS notifications (see p1) to deliver PIP customer award data directly to LAs to enable the quick and accurate calculation of Housing Benefit and Localised Council Tax Reduction awards. We also share information about PIP awards within DWP and with other government departments.

How DLA rates are equivalent to PIP rates for passporting

Almost every passport arrangement under DLA continues under PIP. In most cases, passports in DLA are maintained in PIP as shown below.



Benefit cap

As with DLA and Attendance Allowance (AA), households are exempt from the benefit cap (www.gov.uk/benefit-cap) where a claimant (of any of the benefits subject to the cap), partner or qualifying young person is entitled to PIP.

A qualifying young person is someone for whom the claimant or partner receives child benefit [because they are in full-time 'non-advanced' education at school or college, or starting an 'approved' training course].

An adult non-dependant in receipt of PIP living within the household does not exempt the household from the benefit cap. They are considered as a household in their own right.

Housing Benefit

Any component or rate of PIP means claimants are entitled to the disability premium. The standard or enhanced rate of the daily living component entitles claimants to the severe disability premium. The enhanced rate of the daily living component provides entitlement to the enhanced disability premium.

Council Tax

The Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG), Scottish Government and Welsh Government have all made separate but similar regulations on council tax reduction schemes.

For pension age claimants and working age claimants in England and Wales where LAs are using the default scheme, LAs offer reductions equivalent to existing Localised Council Tax Reduction schemes, including awards linked to receiving DLA and PIP. In Scotland, all claimants receive reductions equivalent to existing Localised Council Tax Reduction schemes. For working age claimants in England and Wales, LAs are free to set council tax reductions that are not linked to DLA or PIP.

Council tax discount disregards apply for people with severe mental impairment. In England and Scotland, receiving PIP Daily Living component at either rate forms part of the qualification for this disregard. In Wales, a decision has not yet been announced.

A carer who provides live-in care is disregarded for council tax purposes in England, if the person receiving care gets the PIP daily living component at either rate, subject to other qualifying criteria. In Scotland, the person receiving care must receive the enhanced rate of the PIP daily living component for the carer to be disregarded. In Wales, a decision has not yet been announced.

Blue Badge and concessionary travel

In England, PIP claimants may be eligible for a Blue Badge without further assessment if they score eight points or more under the 'Moving around' activity – see guidance for [determining eligibility](#).

In Scotland and Wales, claimants may be eligible for a Blue Badge with eight points or more under 'Moving around' or 12 points under activity the 'Planning and following a journey' activity.

In England, applicants may be considered eligible for a concessionary travel pass without further assessment if they score eight or more points on either the 'Moving around' activity or the 'Communicating verbally' activity – see guidance on [determining eligibility](#).

The Scottish Government are legislating to ensure that any recipient of PIP is entitled to a disabled person's bus pass without further assessment.

In Wales, a decision has not yet been announced – [visit the Welsh Government website](#) for more information.

Armed Forces Independence Payment

The Ministry of Defence has introduced Armed Forces Independence Payment (AFIP), a new benefit that will provide financial support for injured service or ex-service personnel.

AFIP claimants will receive a flat-rate benefit equivalent to the enhanced rates of the daily living and mobility components of PIP, which is disregarded as income. Passporting arrangements are broadly the same as PIP – more details can be found on the [veterans-uk website](#).

Initially AFIP data will be shared with LAs by email rather than through ATLAS.